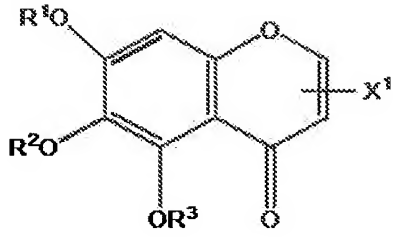
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A compound according to formula I:



(I)

wherein:

R^1 and R^3 are each independently H, lower alkyl, $-SO_3H$, or $-PO_3H_2$, ;

R^2 is selected from hydrogen, $-SO_3H$ or $-PO_3H$; and

X^1 is bound in the 2- or 3- position and is of the formula :

Ar-X^3 ~~T~~ wherein -

~~Ar is furanyl, thienyl, pyridyl, cyclohexyl or benzyl and X^3 is H, C, N, NR', NR'R", NR'SO_2R", or O; wherein R' and R" are each independently H, or lower alkyl ; and OR^1 is $O(CH_2)_nY$, wherein n is 1 to 2, Y is OR^4, NR^5R^6, $COOR^4$, or $CONR^5R^6$; or $O[CH_2CH(OH)CH_2]Y$, wherein Y is H, OR^4, NR^5R^6, $COOR^4$, or $CONR^5R^6$; wherein T is Y or $[CH_2CH(OH)CH_2]Y$, Y is H, OR^4, NR^5R^6, $COOR^4$, or $CONR^5R^6$ wherein R^4, R^5, and R^6 are each independently H, or lower alkyl, and R^5 and R^6 together may form a 5 to 7 membered ring; or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, or~~

Ar is phenyl and X^3 is selected from the group consisting of NR'R", NHR', hydroxyl, Alkoxy, carbooxyalkoxyalkoxy, hydroxyl(hydroxyalkyl)alkoxy and N,N-dialkylaminoalkoxy, wherein R' and R' are each independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl, N,N-(dialkylamino)alkyl, alkoxyalkyl, hydroxyalkyl, alkylsulfonyl and alkylsulfonato alkyl ~~a substituent on the ortho, meta or para position of the phenyl ring and is C, N, NR'SO2R" or O; wherein R' and R'' are each independently H or lower alkyl; and OR^1 is O(CH2)nY wherein n is 1 or 2 Y is OR^4, NR^5R^6, $COOR^4$ or $CONR^5R^6$ or $O[CH_2CH_2(OH)CH_2]Y$ wherein Y is H, OR^4, NR^5R^6, $COOR^4$ or $CONR^5R^6$ wherein T is Y or $O[CH_2CH_2(OH)CH_2]Y$, Y is H, OR^4, NR^5R^6, $COOR^4$ or $CONR^5R^6$ wherein R^4, R^5 and R^6 are each independently H or lower alkyl and R^5 and R^6 together may form a 5 to 7 membered ring~~ or pharmaceutically acceptable salts ~~thereof, subject to the proviso that X^3T is not OR'~~

~~or NR'R" wherein R' and R" arre each independently H or lower alkyl.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^1, R^2 and R^3 are each independently-SO_3H or-PO_3H_2.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)
7. (Cancelled)
8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Previously Presented) The compound wherein the compound is 4'- (N,N-dimethylamino)-5, 6,7-trimethoxyflavone, 4'- (methylamino)-5, 6,7- trimethoxyflavone, 4'-[N-methyl-N-(3-methoxypropyl)amino)-5,6,7-trimethoxyflavone, 4'-[N,N-di-(2-hydroxyethyl)-amino)-5,7-dihydroxy-6-methoxyflavone, 4'-(2-hydroxyethylamino)-5,7-dihydroxy-6-methoxyflavone, 4'-(2-methanesulfonatoethylamino)-5,7-dihydroxy-6-methoxyflavone, 4'-[2-(N,N-diethylamino)ethylamino]-5,7-dihydroxy-6-methoxyflavone, 2,3-diphenyl-5,6,7-trimethoxychromone, 2,3-diphenyl-5,6,7-trihydroxychromone, 4'-(methylsulfonamido)-5,6,7-trimethoxyflavone, 4'-[2-(N,N-diethylamino)ethoxy]-6,7-methylenedioxy-5-hydroxy-flavone, 4'-(2,3-dihydroxy-propyloxy)-5,6,7-trimethoxyflavone, or 4'-(Carbmethoxymethoxy)-5,6,7-trimethoxyflavone.

12. (Original) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 1 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A method of ~~treating diseases~~ improving conditions in or delaying progression of a condition associated with overproduction of TNF-α selected from the group consisting of rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn's disease, and ulcerative colitis, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (currently amended) A method of ~~treating~~ improving conditions in or delaying progression of a condition liver damage, lung damage or kidney damage or combinations thereof resulting from over production of TNF-α or superoxide anion raidacals comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

19. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

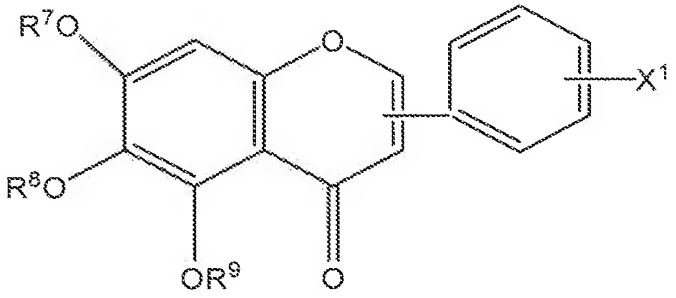
27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (currently amended) A method of ~~treating conditions~~ improving conditions in or delaying progression of a condition selected from liver damage, lung damage or kidney damage ~~the group consisting of diseases associated with the overproduction of TNF-α, overproduction of superoxide anion radical and combinations thereof,~~ comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula V:



(V)

wherein: R^7, R^8, and R^9 are each independently H, lower alkyl,-SO_3H,-PO_3H_2; ~~or R^7 and R^8 together may form a 5-7 membered heterocycle or~~

;

X^1 ~~is a substituent on the ortho, meta, or para position of the phenyl ring and~~ ~~is H, C~~, NH_2, $NHCOCH_3$, or OR^{10}, wherein R^{10} is H, or lower alkyl, and X^1 is attached in any one of the ortho, meta and para positions or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Cancelled)

37. (Cancelled)

38. (Cancelled)

39. (previously presented) The method according to claim 31, wherein the compound is 5,6,7- trihydroxyisoflavone, 4',5,6,7- tetrahydroxyflavone, or 4'-amino -5,7-dihydroxy-6-methoxy flavone.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Cancelled)

44. (previously presented) The method according to claim 31, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with at least one other therapeutic agent useful for the treatment of conditions associated with overproduction of TNF-α, and liver damage, lung damage or kidney damage.

45. (Original) The method according to claim 31, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered orally or parenterally.

46. (currently amended) A method of ~~treating~~ improving conditions in or delaying progression of a condition conditions selected from the group consisting of diseases associated with the overproduction of TNF-α and combinations thereof, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of a compound selected from the group consisting of baicalein-6-sulfate, baicalein-6,7-disulfate, bacalein-6-phosphate, bacalein-6,7-diphosphate, baicalein- 5,6, 7-triphosphate, sodium and potassium salt derivatives thereof, and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

47. (Cancelled)

48. (Cancelled)

49 (Cancelled)

50 (Cancelled)

51. (Cancelled)

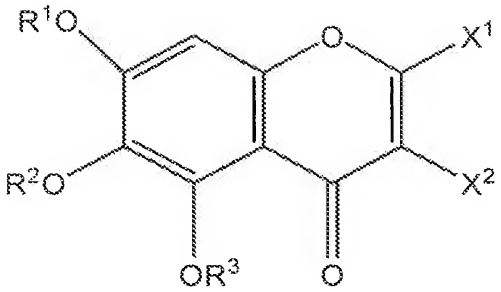
52. (previously presented) The method according to claim 46, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered in combination with at least one other therapeutic agent useful for the treatment of conditions associated with overproduction of TNF-α.

53. (Original) The method according to claim 44, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is administered orally or parentally.

54. (currently amended) A method of ~~treating conditions~~ improving conditions in or delaying progression of a condition selected from the group consisting of diseases associated with the overproduction of TNF-α, and combinations thereof, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof, a pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically effective amount of compound as in Claim 11.

55. (Cancelled)
56. (Cancelled)
57. (Cancelled)
58. (Cancelled)
59. (Cancelled)

60. (currently amended) A method of ~~treating~~ improving conditions in or delaying progression of liver damage, lung damage or kidney damage resulting from over production of TNF-α or superoxide anion raidacals which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula:



wherein ~~R~~ $\underline{R^1}$ is selected from hydrogen and alkyl;

R^2 is selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl and sulfate;

$\underline{R^3}$ is selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl and sulfate;

$\underline{X^1}$ is selected from hydrogen, phenyl and substituted phenyl wherein the substituent is hydroxyl, alkoxy, amino, mono or dialkyl substituted amino, hydroxyl alkoxy, or aminoalkoxy

and X^2 is selected from hydrogen and phenyl, X^1 and X^2 cannot both be phenyl.

61 (new) A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound according to claim 11 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, diluent, or excipient.